



## STEM Kit:

### Newspaper Connectors

**Program Level: All**

These joints and tubes are just missing some rolled up newspapers!

#### Supplies Provided:

- Joints
- Connector tubes

#### What to Bring:

- Newspapers – as many as you'd like! (plan for 1-2 weekend papers per girl)

#### Instructions:

1. Girls can do this individually or in small groups depending on the size of the troop.
2. To gain familiarity with the materials, offer a quick challenge to everyone – either build a cube or a pyramid using a few sheets of newspaper. Regroup to discuss any tricks or tips the girls learned.
3. Depending on time – either issue a challenge to each group (build the tallest tower, build something the whole group can fit in, etc.) or allow girls to create their own structures. Take a look at the suggestions included in the kit for inspiration.
4. When finished, gather the newspaper for recycling and check the floor for missing connectors and joints.

#### Why?

Engineering is all about problem solving. A couple things to ask while facilitating this activity are:

- What kind of plan did you make before you started building? Did you draw out a design, or just wing it and hope for the best?
- What didn't go right the first time you tried it? Could you find a solution?
- How did working on your own or with a couple friends help you? What made that tough?
- If you were to plan to do this activity again, would you want some different papers to use as materials? What else might you want to do to prepare for this activity again?
- Was there a certain shape or method of building that resulted in the best structure?
- How could this activity relate to an engineer's work?

This STEM Kit was provided by a generous gift from

